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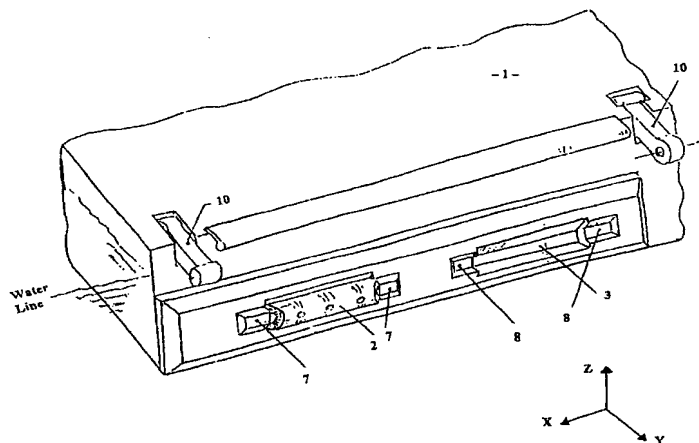
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(54) Title: A SYSTEM FOR CONNECTING BUOYANT MARINE BODIES



(57) Abstract: A system for connecting a two buoyant marine body in a side to side manner, the system comprising first male and female coupling members fixed to the side of a first and second marine body and Second male and female coupling members which are fixed to the side of a first and second marine body. The first male and female coupling members have an opposing relationship and can be moved from an unengaged condition to a fully engaged condition by the movement of the first and second floating marine bodies towards each other in a first horizontal direction. The freedom of movement between the male coupling and the female coupling members, at least in the vertical direction, is decreased as they become vertically aligned. Second male and female coupling members will create a rigid coupling to prevent relative movement in at least the vertical direction, as the freedom of movement between the first male and female coupling members is or is proximate to being vertically aligned. The first male coupling member is of a resiliently flexible nature and can take any impact loading between the two bodies. Securing means is included to attach the buoyant marine bodies together in a horizontal direction.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.
PCT/SG 03/00178-0

CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC⁷: B63B 35/38

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC⁷: B63B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPI, EPODOC, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP 56 005292 A (TAISEI CORP) 20 January 1981 (20.01.81) <i>figures 3-11.</i>	1- 3,19,25,26,30
A	JP 02 106487 A (MIYACHI IRON WORKS) 18 April 1990 (18.04.90) <i>figures 1-8.</i>	1- 3,19,25,26,30
A	JP 04 185592 A (FUDO CONSTRUCTION CO) 2 July 1992 (02.07.92) <i>figures 1-6.</i>	1,19,25,30
A	US 3799100 A (MARRINER) 26 March 1974 (26.03.74) <i>abstract, figures.</i>	1,19,24,30

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

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Patent document cited in search report			Publication date	Patent family member(s)			Publication date
JP	A	2106487A 2		none			
JP	A	4185592A 2		none			
JP	A	56005292 A2		none			
US	A	3799100	1974-03-26	US	A	3822667	1974-07-09
				US	A	3818854	1974-06-25